

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 26 are the pending claims, of which Claims 1, 8, 9, 12 and 16 are the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 5 to 12, 14 to 16, 18 and 25 are amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

By way of a non-limiting example and in accordance with one or more embodiments, information is provided in a link to streaming content, e.g., a link that is selectable in a browser at a user computer. Some non-limiting examples of a link that is used in accordance with one or more embodiments are provided in paragraphs [0018], [0025] and [0039] of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0147634, the publication of the present application. The information included in the link identifies streaming content and information to place an advertisement relative to the streaming content. In accordance with at least one embodiment, the placement information comprises a streaming advertisement parameter, which includes information specifying a position of the streaming advertisement in a content stream including the streaming content. Reference is made to Table 4, which commences after paragraph [0038] of the published application, and to the “a” argument which can be used in a link, in accordance with one or more embodiments. By way of a non-limiting example, the argument takes the form of “a=position, duration,” with the position identifying a position for a break in the content stream for the advertisement, and the duration identifying a duration of advertisement. By way of a further non-limiting example, a parameter of “a=1,30” in a link specifies that a thirty second advertisement is to be placed after the first streaming content item in the playlist. In accordance with one or more embodiments, the playlist includes an indicator, e.g., an event indicator, which when triggered, e.g., after the first streaming content item in the playlist in the case of “a=1,30”, causes the advertisement to be played. By way of another non-limiting example, a parameter of “a=1e,30” in a link specifies that a thirty-second advertisement is to run at a break in the first streaming content item. In accordance with one or more embodiments, the “a=1e,30 indicates that an event is embedded in the first streaming content item in the playlist, to run a thirty-second advertisement at the break in the first streaming content item indicated by the event.

In accordance with one or more embodiments, selection of the selectable link results in a request being made for a playlist. The playlist request, which includes the selected link's streaming content identification information and the streaming advertisement parameter, results in a playlist, which identifies the streaming content in accordance with the link's streaming media identification information, and an indicator, which can be embedded in the streaming content or included in the playlist, of the placement of the advertisement relative to the streaming content. In accordance with one or more embodiments and by way of a further non-limiting example, the indicator indicates when the streaming advertisement is to be played in relation to the stream media content in the streaming content. To illustrate by way of a non-limiting example, the advertisement placement information provided as part of the request can be used to determine that streaming advertisement content is to be positioned at the beginning or at the end of a streaming content item in a content stream, or somewhere within the streaming content itself. The selectable link's advertisement placement information provided with the playlist request can be used to make a determination whether the content stream is to include an embedded command that indicates a point of placement of a streaming advertisement relative to the streaming media content, such as an intermediate point in the streaming media content. By way of yet another non-limiting example and in accordance with one or more embodiments, a command embedded in the content stream can trigger communication of HTML data that is to be experienced in a data frame at the user computer while the content stream containing the embedded command is being experienced in a streaming content frame at the user computer.

By the Office Action, Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,760,916 (Holtz) and U.S. Patent No. 7,111,009 (Gupta). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The Applicant notes the Examiner's position concerning the Applicant's request that the Examiner cite to those portions of the Holtz reference that the Examiner considers corresponds to each of the citations made to the Snyder reference and relied on by the Examiner to support the Examiner's rejection of the claims based on Holtz. The basis of the Applicant's request is evident from the record, and the request is maintained. In an effort to advance prosecution and without conceding in any way the propriety of the rejection based on Holtz, the Applicant

provides the following remarks with regard to the portions of Snyder identified by the Examiner in the Office Action.

In the method of Claim 1, a link in a browser at a user computer comprises streaming media content identification information and a streaming advertisement parameter, the streaming advertisement parameter specifying a position of a streaming advertisement in a content stream comprising the streaming media content. In response to selection of the link, a frame set is built in a window of the browser, the frame set comprises a media player frame to experience streaming content from a media player executing at the user computer and a data frame. In further response to selection of the link, a request for a playlist is made at the user computer to a source on a network. The request includes the link's streaming media content identification information and the link's streaming advertisement parameter. A playlist is received in response to the request. The playlist's contents comprise a reference identifying the streaming media content in accordance with the link's streaming media content identification information. The playlist or the content stream includes an indicator that indicates when the streaming advertisement should be played in relation to the streaming media content in the content stream in accordance with the link's streaming advertisement parameter. The user computer receives the streaming advertisement and the streaming media content in accordance with the playlist's contents. HTML content related to the content stream is received, and the content stream is simultaneously played in the media player frame as the HTML content is displayed in the data frame.

Claim 1 is amended to recite a link in a browser at a user computer, the link comprising streaming media content identification information and a streaming advertisement parameter, the streaming advertisement parameter specifying a position of a streaming advertisement in a content stream comprising the streaming media content, and in response to selection of the link a frame set is built in a window of the browser and a request for a playlist is made at the user computer to a source on a network, the request includes the link's streaming media content identification information and the link's streaming advertisement parameter; and the playlist is received, in response to the request, which playlist includes a reference identifying the streaming media content in accordance with the link's streaming media content identification information, the playlist or the content stream includes an indicator that indicates when the streaming

advertisement should be played in relation to the streaming media content in the content stream in accordance with the link's streaming advertisement parameter.

Snyder describes a video production system that controls video production devices using show script files, which store the video production commands for each segment of a show that is to be produced. Snyder describes an on-demand system by which a user can browse a web page and select a show or a segment of a show for on-demand viewing by selecting an icon, and the system responds to a user's selection of the icon by executing a prerecorded stored script file to feed the video to the user. See Snyder p. 70, lns. 8 to 22. Snyder is silent with respect to the claimed link, which comprises streaming media content identification information and a streaming advertisement parameter, the streaming advertisement parameter specifying a position of a streaming advertisement in a content stream comprising the streaming media content.

Furthermore, Snyder does not disclose or suggest making a request for a playlist, which request includes the claimed link's streaming media content identification information and the claimed link's stream advertisement parameter, and/or does not disclose or suggest a playlist being received, in response to the request, which playlist includes an indicator that indicates when a streaming advertisement should be played in relation to the streaming media content in accordance with the claimed link's streaming advertisement parameter. As is conceded in the Office Action, Snyder does not disclose that a playlist is even received. Snyder transmits the content itself, and cannot teach, suggest or disclose receiving, at a user computer, a playlist that contains a reference that identifies media content, let alone either a playlist or a content stream that includes an indicator that indicates when a streaming advertisement should be played in relation to streaming media content in a content stream accordance with the claimed link's streaming advertisement parameter. Snyder does not disclose or suggest the claimed link, which includes the claimed streaming advertisement parameter as part of the link in a browser, selection of which results in a request that includes the link's streaming advertisement parameter being made for a playlist, the playlist or the streaming media content referenced by the playlist including an indicator that indicates when the streaming advertisement should be played in relation to the streaming media content in accordance with the link's streaming advertisement parameter.

Gupta has been reviewed and is not believed to remedy the deficiencies of Snyder. Gupta provides a user interface that displays annotations, i.e., titles or summaries of video segments, and allows the user to select a segment by the segment's title or summary. According to Gupta, the user can identify the set of annotations to be displayed using a query, and the user interface displays the queried annotations. Gupta fails to even mention making a playlist request at a user computer, and further fails to disclose or suggest a playlist request that includes a streaming advertisement parameter that specifies a position of the streaming advertisement in streaming content, and/or receiving a playlist received in response, which contains a reference identifying media content, either the received playlist or the media content referenced in the received playlist including an indicator that indicates when the streaming advertisement should be played in relation to the media content. Furthermore, nothing in Gupta discloses or suggests the claimed link, which comprises streaming media content identification information and a streaming advertisement parameter, the streaming advertisement parameter specifying a position of a streaming advertisement in a content stream comprising the streaming media content, and/or responding to a selection of such a link by making a request for a playlist to a source on a network, the request including the link's streaming media content identification information and streaming advertisement parameter; and in response to making such a request the playlist is received, which playlist includes a reference identifying the streaming media content in accordance with the link's streaming media content identification information, the playlist or the content stream including an indicator that indicates when the streaming advertisement should be played in relation to the streaming media content in the content stream in accordance with the link's streaming advertisement parameter.

Since Snyder and Gupta fail to teach, suggest or disclose multiples ones of the same elements of Claim 1, as discussed above, neither Snyder nor Gupta can form a proper § 102 rejection, and they also cannot form the basis of a proper § 103(a) rejection.

Claim 1 is therefore believed to be patentably distinct from Snyder and from Gupta. Claims 2 and 4 to 7 depend from Claim 1 and are believed to be patenably distinct from Snyder and Gupta for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1. In addition, Claims 2 and 4 to 7 recite additional elements that are not taught, suggested or disclosed by Snyder.

Claim 2 further recites that the receiving of HTML content includes providing the HTML content related to the content stream being experienced in a media player frame in a data frame in response to execution of an embedded command in the content stream. Claim 5 recites that an embedded script command is received in the content stream requested using the references in the playlist. The embedded script command references the remotely-stored HTML content that is related to the content stream requested using the playlist's references and that is being experienced in the browser window. The Office Action cites to Holtz, but appears to reference a portion of Snyder. The cited portion of Snyder mentions "datacasting", but does not provide any description of how the datacasting is performed, and certainly does not mention, let alone disclose or even suggest embedding a command into a content stream, and nothing in Snyder teaches, suggests or describes a command embedded in a content stream such that related HTML content is provided in a data frame. Furthermore, Snyder fails to teach, suggest or describe a script command embedded in a content stream that references HTML content related to the content stream.

Claim 6 further recites that the indicator included in a playlist or the media content referenced by the playlist indicates whether the streaming advertisement is to be played before, during or after the streaming media content is played. As discussed above, Snyder's show and script files consist of video production commands, and do not correspond in any way to the claimed playlist. The Office Action fails to provide any reference to any portion of Snyder, and none can be found, that teaches, suggests or describes indicator included in a playlist that references streaming media content or included in the streaming media content referenced by the playlist indicating whether a streaming advertisement is to be played before, during or after streaming media content.

Independent Claims 8 and 9, and Claims 10 and 11 which depend from Claim 9, are believed to be patentably distinct over Snyder for at least the foregoing reasons.

Independent Claim 12 recites a method comprising providing a link, the link comprising streaming content identification information and an advertisement placement parameter, the advertisement placement parameter specifying a timing for playing a streaming advertisement in a content stream and specifying which of a playlist and the content stream is to include an indicator of the timing, receiving a request for a playlist from the user computer, the request

including the link's streaming content identification information and the link's advertisement placement parameter, building a playlist, the contents of which comprise a reference identifying the streaming content in accordance with the link's streaming content identifier, the link's advertisement placement parameter included in the received request being used to determine which of the playlist and the content stream includes the timing indicator, and transmitting the playlist to the user computer.

Independent Claim 16 recites a method that provides a link, the link comprising a streaming content identification information and advertisement placement information, the advertisement placement information identifying a timing for output of an advertisement relative to the streaming content, receives a request for a playlist from a user computer, the request including the link's streaming content identification information and the link's advertisement placement information, builds a playlist using the link's streaming content identification information and the link's advertisement placement information such that the playlist includes a reference to streaming content, which streaming content has at least one embedded command in accordance with the link's advertisement placement information, the at least one embedded command including advertisement identification information to be processed as the streaming media content is being experienced at said user computer, and transmits the playlist to the user computer, the at least one embedded command identifying the timing for output of the advertisement relative to the streaming content in accordance with the link's advertisement placement information.

As discussed above, Snyder is limited to collecting content in a bin at the server. Snyder does not build a playlist containing a reference to streaming content that is transmitted to a user computer, and further fails to teach, suggest or disclose such a playlist that has at least one embedded command that includes advertisement identification information to be processed as the streaming content is being experienced at the user computer. Gupta focuses on providing a user interface to display segment annotations so that the user can select a segment by selecting the segment's annotation. Nothing in Snyder or Gupta discloses or suggests the claimed link, which comprises streaming content identification information and an advertisement placement parameter (or advertisement placement information, as recited in Claim 16), receiving a request for a playlist that includes the link's streaming content identification information and

advertisement placement parameter, or advertisement placement information, and building a playlist using the link's streaming content identification information and advertisement placement parameter, or advertisement placement information. Furthermore, nothing in Snyder or Gupta discloses or suggests the playlist recited in Claim 12 or in Claim 16, i.e., as recited in Claim 12, the playlist comprises a reference identifying streaming content in accordance with the link's streaming content identifier, the link's advertisement placement parameter included in the request being used to determine which of said playlist and said content stream includes said timing indicator, or the playlist, as recited in Claim 16, which includes a reference to streaming content, the streaming content referenced by the playlist having at least one embedded command including advertisement identification information to be processed as the streaming content is being experienced at the user computer, the at least one embedded command identifying the timing for output of the advertisement relative to the streaming content in accordance with the link's advertisement placement information.

Claim 13, which depends from Claim 12, further recites that information contained in a request for a playlist includes information that identifies a location of information to configure a frame set on a user computer to which the playlist is sent. Snyder's on-demand system focuses on responding to a demand for content by streaming content, and nothing in Snyder teaches, suggests or describes a request for a playlist, the request including information that identifies a location of information to configure a frame set on a user computer.

In view of the above reasons provided in connection with the claims, both independent and dependent, discussed above, independent Claims 12 and 16, and Claims 13 to 15 (which depend from Claim 12) and Claims 17 to 26 (which depend from Claim 16), are believed to be patentably distinct from Snyder.

Since Snyder and Gupta are missing multiple elements of the claims, as discussed above, neither can form the basis of a proper § 102 rejection, and further since they are missing multiple ones of the same claim elements, they cannot form the basis of a proper § 103(a) rejection. The claims should therefore be patentable over the references. Furthermore and since Snyder is missing multiple elements of the claims, Holtz, which must necessarily rely on the disclosure of Snyder in order to even be considered to be prior art, cannot form the basis of a proper § 102

rejection, and further cannot form the basis of a proper § 103(a) rejection. Withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of the claims is proper, and is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Should matters remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney. Alternatively, since it is believed that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

The applicant's attorney may be reached by telephone at 212-801-6729. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below, which is the address associated with Customer Number 76058.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee in connection with the submission of this paper, any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-1561. Please ensure that the Attorney Docket Number is referenced when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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